



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/783,811	02/19/2004	Terrence Buelna	506512000801	7061
20872	7590	09/24/2004	EXAMINER	
MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP 425 MARKET STREET SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-2482				DAVIS, DANIEL J
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
		3731		

DATE MAILED: 09/24/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/783,811	BUELNA ET AL.	
	Examiner D. Jacob Davis	Art Unit 3731	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date May02 Sep03 Apr04.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.
 7) Other: _____.
 8) Other: _____.
 9) Other: _____.
 10) Other: _____.
 11) Other: _____.
 12) Other: _____.
 13) Other: _____.
 14) Other: _____.
 15) Other: _____.
 16) Other: _____.
 17) Other: _____.
 18) Other: _____.
 19) Other: _____.
 20) Other: _____.
 21) Other: _____.
 22) Other: _____.
 23) Other: _____.
 24) Other: _____.
 25) Other: _____.
 26) Other: _____.
 27) Other: _____.
 28) Other: _____.
 29) Other: _____.
 30) Other: _____.
 31) Other: _____.
 32) Other: _____.
 33) Other: _____.
 34) Other: _____.
 35) Other: _____.
 36) Other: _____.
 37) Other: _____.
 38) Other: _____.
 39) Other: _____.
 40) Other: _____.
 41) Other: _____.
 42) Other: _____.
 43) Other: _____.
 44) Other: _____.
 45) Other: _____.
 46) Other: _____.
 47) Other: _____.
 48) Other: _____.
 49) Other: _____.
 50) Other: _____.
 51) Other: _____.
 52) Other: _____.
 53) Other: _____.
 54) Other: _____.
 55) Other: _____.
 56) Other: _____.
 57) Other: _____.
 58) Other: _____.
 59) Other: _____.
 60) Other: _____.
 61) Other: _____.
 62) Other: _____.
 63) Other: _____.
 64) Other: _____.
 65) Other: _____.
 66) Other: _____.
 67) Other: _____.
 68) Other: _____.
 69) Other: _____.
 70) Other: _____.
 71) Other: _____.
 72) Other: _____.
 73) Other: _____.
 74) Other: _____.
 75) Other: _____.
 76) Other: _____.
 77) Other: _____.
 78) Other: _____.
 79) Other: _____.
 80) Other: _____.
 81) Other: _____.
 82) Other: _____.
 83) Other: _____.
 84) Other: _____.
 85) Other: _____.
 86) Other: _____.
 87) Other: _____.
 88) Other: _____.
 89) Other: _____.
 90) Other: _____.
 91) Other: _____.
 92) Other: _____.
 93) Other: _____.
 94) Other: _____.
 95) Other: _____.
 96) Other: _____.
 97) Other: _____.
 98) Other: _____.
 99) Other: _____.
 100) Other: _____.
 101) Other: _____.
 102) Other: _____.
 103) Other: _____.
 104) Other: _____.
 105) Other: _____.
 106) Other: _____.
 107) Other: _____.
 108) Other: _____.
 109) Other: _____.
 110) Other: _____.
 111) Other: _____.
 112) Other: _____.
 113) Other: _____.
 114) Other: _____.
 115) Other: _____.
 116) Other: _____.
 117) Other: _____.
 118) Other: _____.
 119) Other: _____.
 120) Other: _____.
 121) Other: _____.
 122) Other: _____.
 123) Other: _____.
 124) Other: _____.
 125) Other: _____.
 126) Other: _____.
 127) Other: _____.
 128) Other: _____.
 129) Other: _____.
 130) Other: _____.
 131) Other: _____.
 132) Other: _____.
 133) Other: _____.
 134) Other: _____.
 135) Other: _____.
 136) Other: _____.
 137) Other: _____.
 138) Other: _____.
 139) Other: _____.
 140) Other: _____.
 141) Other: _____.
 142) Other: _____.
 143) Other: _____.
 144) Other: _____.
 145) Other: _____.
 146) Other: _____.
 147) Other: _____.
 148) Other: _____.
 149) Other: _____.
 150) Other: _____.
 151) Other: _____.
 152) Other: _____.
 153) Other: _____.
 154) Other: _____.
 155) Other: _____.
 156) Other: _____.
 157) Other: _____.
 158) Other: _____.
 159) Other: _____.
 160) Other: _____.
 161) Other: _____.
 162) Other: _____.
 163) Other: _____.
 164) Other: _____.
 165) Other: _____.
 166) Other: _____.
 167) Other: _____.
 168) Other: _____.
 169) Other: _____.
 170) Other: _____.
 171) Other: _____.
 172) Other: _____.
 173) Other: _____.
 174) Other: _____.
 175) Other: _____.
 176) Other: _____.
 177) Other: _____.
 178) Other: _____.
 179) Other: _____.
 180) Other: _____.
 181) Other: _____.
 182) Other: _____.
 183) Other: _____.
 184) Other: _____.
 185) Other: _____.
 186) Other: _____.
 187) Other: _____.
 188) Other: _____.
 189) Other: _____.
 190) Other: _____.
 191) Other: _____.
 192) Other: _____.
 193) Other: _____.
 194) Other: _____.
 195) Other: _____.
 196) Other: _____.
 197) Other: _____.
 198) Other: _____.
 199) Other: _____.
 200) Other: _____.
 201) Other: _____.
 202) Other: _____.
 203) Other: _____.
 204) Other: _____.
 205) Other: _____.
 206) Other: _____.
 207) Other: _____.
 208) Other: _____.
 209) Other: _____.
 210) Other: _____.
 211) Other: _____.
 212) Other: _____.
 213) Other: _____.
 214) Other: _____.
 215) Other: _____.
 216) Other: _____.
 217) Other: _____.
 218) Other: _____.
 219) Other: _____.
 220) Other: _____.
 221) Other: _____.
 222) Other: _____.
 223) Other: _____.
 224) Other: _____.
 225) Other: _____.
 226) Other: _____.
 227) Other: _____.
 228) Other: _____.
 229) Other: _____.
 230) Other: _____.
 231) Other: _____.
 232) Other: _____.
 233) Other: _____.
 234) Other: _____.
 235) Other: _____.
 236) Other: _____.
 237) Other: _____.
 238) Other: _____.
 239) Other: _____.
 240) Other: _____.
 241) Other: _____.
 242) Other: _____.
 243) Other: _____.
 244) Other: _____.
 245) Other: _____.
 246) Other: _____.
 247) Other: _____.
 248) Other: _____.
 249) Other: _____.
 250) Other: _____.
 251) Other: _____.
 252) Other: _____.
 253) Other: _____.
 254) Other: _____.
 255) Other: _____.
 256) Other: _____.
 257) Other: _____.
 258) Other: _____.
 259) Other: _____.
 260) Other: _____.
 261) Other: _____.
 262) Other: _____.
 263) Other: _____.
 264) Other: _____.
 265) Other: _____.
 266) Other: _____.
 267) Other: _____.
 268) Other: _____.
 269) Other: _____.
 270) Other: _____.
 271) Other: _____.
 272) Other: _____.
 273) Other: _____.
 274) Other: _____.
 275) Other: _____.
 276) Other: _____.
 277) Other: _____.
 278) Other: _____.
 279) Other: _____.
 280) Other: _____.
 281) Other: _____.
 282) Other: _____.
 283) Other: _____.
 284) Other: _____.
 285) Other: _____.
 286) Other: _____.
 287) Other: _____.
 288) Other: _____.
 289) Other: _____.
 290) Other: _____.
 291) Other: _____.
 292) Other: _____.
 293) Other: _____.
 294) Other: _____.
 295) Other: _____.
 296) Other: _____.
 297) Other: _____.
 298) Other: _____.
 299) Other: _____.
 300) Other: _____.
 301) Other: _____.
 302) Other: _____.
 303) Other: _____.
 304) Other: _____.
 305) Other: _____.
 306) Other: _____.
 307) Other: _____.
 308) Other: _____.
 309) Other: _____.
 310) Other: _____.
 311) Other: _____.
 312) Other: _____.
 313) Other: _____.
 314) Other: _____.
 315) Other: _____.
 316) Other: _____.
 317) Other: _____.
 318) Other: _____.
 319) Other: _____.
 320) Other: _____.
 321) Other: _____.
 322) Other: _____.
 323) Other: _____.
 324) Other: _____.
 325) Other: _____.
 326) Other: _____.
 327) Other: _____.
 328) Other: _____.
 329) Other: _____.
 330) Other: _____.
 331) Other: _____.
 332) Other: _____.
 333) Other: _____.
 334) Other: _____.
 335) Other: _____.
 336) Other: _____.
 337) Other: _____.
 338) Other: _____.
 339) Other: _____.
 340) Other: _____.
 341) Other: _____.
 342) Other: _____.
 343) Other: _____.
 344) Other: _____.
 345) Other: _____.
 346) Other: _____.
 347) Other: _____.
 348) Other: _____.
 349) Other: _____.
 350) Other: _____.
 351) Other: _____.
 352) Other: _____.
 353) Other: _____.
 354) Other: _____.
 355) Other: _____.
 356) Other: _____.
 357) Other: _____.
 358) Other: _____.
 359) Other: _____.
 360) Other: _____.
 361) Other: _____.
 362) Other: _____.
 363) Other: _____.
 364) Other: _____.
 365) Other: _____.
 366) Other: _____.
 367) Other: _____.
 368) Other: _____.
 369) Other: _____.
 370) Other: _____.
 371) Other: _____.
 372) Other: _____.
 373) Other: _____.
 374) Other: _____.
 375) Other: _____.
 376) Other: _____.
 377) Other: _____.
 378) Other: _____.
 379) Other: _____.
 380) Other: _____.
 381) Other: _____.
 382) Other: _____.
 383) Other: _____.
 384) Other: _____.
 385) Other: _____.
 386) Other: _____.
 387) Other: _____.
 388) Other: _____.
 389) Other: _____.
 390) Other: _____.
 391) Other: _____.
 392) Other: _____.
 393) Other: _____.
 394) Other: _____.
 395) Other: _____.
 396) Other: _____.
 397) Other: _____.
 398) Other: _____.
 399) Other: _____.
 400) Other: _____.
 401) Other: _____.
 402) Other: _____.
 403) Other: _____.
 404) Other: _____.
 405) Other: _____.
 406) Other: _____.
 407) Other: _____.
 408) Other: _____.
 409) Other: _____.
 410) Other: _____.
 411) Other: _____.
 412) Other: _____.
 413) Other: _____.
 414) Other: _____.
 415) Other: _____.
 416) Other: _____.
 417) Other: _____.
 418) Other: _____.
 419) Other: _____.
 420) Other: _____.
 421) Other: _____.
 422) Other: _____.
 423) Other: _____.
 424) Other: _____.
 425) Other: _____.
 426) Other: _____.
 427) Other: _____.
 428) Other: _____.
 429) Other: _____.
 430) Other: _____.
 431) Other: _____.
 432) Other: _____.
 433) Other: _____.
 434) Other: _____.
 435) Other: _____.
 436) Other: _____.
 437) Other: _____.
 438) Other: _____.
 439) Other: _____.
 440) Other: _____.
 441) Other: _____.
 442) Other: _____.
 443) Other: _____.
 444) Other: _____.
 445) Other: _____.
 446) Other: _____.
 447) Other: _____.
 448) Other: _____.
 449) Other: _____.
 450) Other: _____.
 451) Other: _____.
 452) Other: _____.
 453) Other: _____.
 454) Other: _____.
 455) Other: _____.
 456) Other: _____.
 457) Other: _____.
 458) Other: _____.
 459) Other: _____.
 460) Other: _____.
 461) Other: _____.
 462) Other: _____.
 463) Other: _____.
 464) Other: _____.
 465) Other: _____.
 466) Other: _____.
 467) Other: _____.
 468) Other: _____.
 469) Other: _____.
 470) Other: _____.
 471) Other: _____.
 472) Other: _____.
 473) Other: _____.
 474) Other: _____.
 475) Other: _____.
 476) Other: _____.
 477) Other: _____.
 478) Other: _____.
 479) Other: _____.
 480) Other: _____.
 481) Other: _____.
 482) Other: _____.
 483) Other: _____.
 484) Other: _____.
 485) Other: _____.
 486) Other: _____.
 487) Other: _____.
 488) Other: _____.
 489) Other: _____.
 490) Other: _____.
 491) Other: _____.
 492) Other: _____.
 493) Other: _____.
 494) Other: _____.
 495) Other: _____.
 496) Other: _____.
 497) Other: _____.
 498) Other: _____.
 499) Other: _____.
 500) Other: _____.
 501) Other: _____.
 502) Other: _____.
 503) Other: _____.
 504) Other: _____.
 505) Other: _____.
 506) Other: _____.
 507) Other: _____.
 508) Other: _____.
 509) Other: _____.
 510) Other: _____.
 511) Other: _____.
 512) Other: _____.
 513) Other: _____.
 514) Other: _____.
 515) Other: _____.
 516) Other: _____.
 517) Other: _____.
 518) Other: _____.
 519) Other: _____.
 520) Other: _____.
 521) Other: _____.
 522) Other: _____.
 523) Other: _____.
 524) Other: _____.
 525) Other: _____.
 526) Other: _____.
 527) Other: _____.
 528) Other: _____.
 529) Other: _____.
 530) Other: _____.
 531) Other: _____.
 532) Other: _____.
 533) Other: _____.
 534) Other: _____.
 535) Other: _____.
 536) Other: _____.
 537) Other: _____.<br

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(c) Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under one or more of subsections (e), (f), and (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 USC 103(c) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,728,1212 to Bimbo et al. in view of U.S. Patent 6,626,922 to Hart et al. As illustrated in Fig. 4A, Bimbo teaches a compliant cushion 24 (col. 4, lines 26-40) having multiple surfaces. The inner surfaces are designed to attach the device to a jaw. The outer surfaces are encased within a metallic surface overlay 36 (col. 5, lines 1-20 and 59-67). The surface overlay 36 is inherently flexible and non-compliant since it may be made of metal (col. 5, lines 65-67).

Bimbo fails to disclose a plurality of protrusions or columns extending from the overlay generally perpendicular to the cushion surface. Nevertheless, Hart teaches a jaw-type occlusion device (Fig. 4) comprising a plurality of protrusions or columns 38. The columns enhance traction (col. 4, lines 37-etc seq.). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add columns to the Bimbo device to enhance traction.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicants' disclosure: U.S. Patent No. 6,746,461 to Fry.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to D. Jacob Davis whose telephone number is (703) 305-1232. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anhtuan T. Nguyen can be reached on (703) 308-2154. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DJD



DAVID O. REIF
PRIMARY EXAMINER